

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/09/08 has been entered.

Claims 1, 3, 6, 11, and 14 are allowed over the prior art of record and in light of applicant's arguments.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 04/15/08, 04/30/04, and 09/05/07, is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee. Amendment was authorized by Robinson Walker on 09/27/09.

The application has been amended as follows: Claim 1, Please delete "its" in lines 15 and 19 of the claim.

Replace claim 14 with the following:

14. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable non transitory medium having a program instructing a computer to a network, including at least a DNS (Domain Name System) server, to execute an information detection operation for detecting an IP (Internet Protocol) address, comprising the steps of:

detecting at least one search IP address from IP addresses which are a predetermined number of IP addresses selected as a unit from possible IP addresses on the network, by sending an ARP (Address Resolution Protocol) request to the IP addresses and receiving an ARP response to the ARP request;

sending a DNS query message to the at least one search IP address and receiving response message;

identifying a DNS response message from the response message and detecting an IP address of a source DNS server from the DNS response message;

sending an ICMP echo request message to the at least one search IP address and receiving its ICMP response message; and

detecting an IP address of a source router from the ICMP response message, wherein the ICMP response message is either an ICMP redirect request message or an ICMP time exceed message.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record to Choi fails to disclose as a whole a search IP address detector for detecting at least one search IP address from IP addresses which are selected from a predetermined number of IP addresses as a unit from a predetermined number of IP addresses selected as a unit from possible IP addresses on the network, by sending an ARP (Address Resolution Protocol) request to the IP addresses and receiving an ARP response to the ARP request; a DNS message transceiver for sending a DNS query_ message to the at least one search IP address and receiving its response message; a

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DNS server detector for identifying a DNS response message from the response message and detecting an IP address of a source DNS server from the DNS response message; an ICMP message transceiver for sending an ICMP echo request message to the at least one search IP address and receiving its ICMP response message; and a router detector for detecting an IP address of a source router from the ICMP response message, wherein the ICMP response message is either an ICMP redirect request message or an ICMP time exceed message.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frantz B. Jean whose telephone number is 571-272-3937. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-6:00 M-f.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan J. Flynn can be reached on 571-272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Frantz B. Jean/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2454